

I would add that three days after encountering this remarkable flight, I witnessed another of the same character, only this time numbering but two or three hundred individuals, taking the same southerly direction over Sam's Point, but a few miles from the caves visited on the previous occasion.

If you can tell me where these countless thousands of hawks came from, whither they were bound, upon what they subsist while travelling, or if you can throw any other light upon the subject you will greatly oblige,

Yours most truly,

KIRK MUNROE.

New Massachusetts Records for the Hawk and Great Gray Owls.—I have just secured for the Thoreau Museum of Natural History, at the Middlesex School, Concord, Massachusetts, a specimen of the Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula caparoch*) shot in the Lake Walden woods on the border of Lincoln, Mass., in February, 1907, and one of the Great Gray Owl (*Scotioptex nebulosa*) shot in the Hoar woods, in Concord, Mass., in December, 1906. With these I have also secured specimens of the Great-horned, Snowy, Short-eared, Long-eared, Barred, Screech and Acadian Owls, all taken in Concord during the past few years. These were shot by Henry C. Wheeler, a trapper and woodsman of Concord. This Hawk Owl makes, I believe, the fourteenth record for the State, and the Great Gray the eighteenth. A careful investigation into their capture leaves no doubt in my mind as to their authenticity.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Concord, Mass.*

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) in Maryland.—It is with pleasure that I add another species to the list of Maryland birds, namely, the Chestnut-collared Longspur, adult male. The specimen was shot August 20, 1906, by Captain Annsley Ludlam of Ocean City, Md., on the Thoroughfare farm just beyond the drawbridge across Assateague Bay and west of the north end of Ocean City and in full view of it. It was found on a sandy knoll with but little grass and that short and scrubby. Recognizing it as a bird he did not know he shot it and brought it to me. I packed it in ice and sent it to the Smithsonian Institution where it now is.—F. C. KIRKWOOD, *Oldtown, Alleghany Co., Md.*

Nelson's Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) on Long Island, N. Y.—It is with satisfaction that Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow is herewith recorded as taken within Long Island boundaries. This species was included in the 'List of the Birds of Long Island, New York,' which appears in the last number of 'Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Linnæan Society of New York,' with some hesitation, since search through the literature, collections of birds and generously offered field-notes of others failed to confirm my assumption that it was certainly a migrant. Dr. Bishop found it on the

Connecticut shore of Long Island Sound, in late September and October, and it was therefore made an exception, and included, as was clearly stated in the note on this species (p. 82), without its having ever been taken on Long Island. A specimen was first secured by the writer on October 5, 1907, at Rockaway Beach.—WILLIAM C. BRAISLIN, M. D., *Brooklyn, N. Y.*

The Tree Swallow Nesting in the Delaware Valley.—On July 7, 1907, while boating on the Rancoas we found a Tree Swallow's nest in a hole in a pile near Bridgeboro, Burlington County, N. J., less than five miles from the Delaware River. It contained five well incubated eggs. While this bird is a somewhat common breeder throughout the Pine Barren region of southern New Jersey it is rarely found nesting within the Delaware Valley.—CHRISWELL J. HUNT, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

The Name of the California Least Vireo.—In 'The Condor' for November, 1901, page 187, I named and described *Vireo pusillus albatus*, with type from Pasadena, distinguishing it from *Vireo pusillus* Coues, from Arizona. In his 'Birds of North and Middle America,' Part III, 1904, page 207, Mr. Ridgway describes *Vireo bellii arizona*, with type from Tucson, and distinguishes it from *V. b. medius* of Texas and *V. b. pusillus* (page 208) of California. He cites my name *albatus* as a synonym of *pusillus*, and gives the type of *Vireo pusillus* Coues as from "Cape San Lucas, Lower California; coll. U. S. Nat. Mus."

I have not the original description of *pusillus* to refer to; but turning to Coues's 'Birds of the Colorado Valley,' 1878, page 531, I find in the synonymy "**Vireo pusillus**, Coues, Pr. Phila. Acad. 1866, 76 (descr. orig.; near Fort Whipple, Ariz.)." Further down the page the habitat is given as "Arizona, chiefly in its lower portions, and California from Sacramento to Cape St. Lucas." Furthermore, on the next page (532), Coues makes the following definite statement: "The type-specimen of *Vireo pusillus* was shot on Date Creek, in Arizona, June 6, 1865, [etc., in regard to circumstances of capture]"; and further, "it [the species] remained undescribed until the following year, when I overhauled my Arizona collections at the Smithsonian in Washington." Also, the description (on page 531) applies far better (in fact precisely) to the Arizona race than to that of California.

In view of the above statements by its original describer I cannot understand by what process the type-ship of *pusillus* could possibly be imposed upon a Cape San Lucas specimen. The type bird is stated by Coues to have come from *Arizona*, and that it was shot by himself at a certain place there. That specimen, according to Baird, in his 'Review of American Birds,' 1866, page 361, bore the "Smithsonian No. 40,696." In the ultimate recognition of a separate race in California, the name *pusillus* should apply to the Arizona form as restricted, while the California form is open to naming. This I did; and since intergradation has been shown to exist between the extremes in the species, how can the name of the California